



PERPICH
TEACHING IN AND
THROUGH THE ARTS

September 13, 2023

Dear Administrators and Activities Directors,

Greetings from Perpich Center for Arts Education! As we head back to school for a new academic year, it can be both an exciting and nerve-wracking time for new theater educators and directors. Depending on the size of your school and/or district, they may be the only person teaching theater curriculum or directing theatrical productions, and this can feel isolating as they face their new sets of roles and responsibilities.

To address this issue, we at Perpich Center have developed a mentoring program for new and developing theater educators and directors. The program is designed to assist educators in one or more of the following areas: directing productions in K-12 school settings, creating and running a school theater program, developing standards-aligned curriculum and assessment, and developing/strengthening an equity lens. Mentors are experienced classroom educators and directors who are also licensed in Theater Arts, English/Language Arts, Speech, and/or related fields, or who are recently retired after years of service.

Because the mentoring program is financially supported through legislative appropriations to Perpich Center, there is no additional charge to the mentee or local school district.

Would it be possible to help get the word out to your theater educators and/or directors, especially those who are in the first few years of their career, those that have been teaching for some time but are new to directing theatrical productions or teaching theater curriculum, or anyone in the field who could benefit from the support of an experienced mentor? If yes, could you please **send this information along** to them and let them know that they can send me an email if they are interested? I would also be happy to add them to my email list of theater directors and educators across the state, to keep them up to date on our latest opportunities in professional development. We offer workshops, conferences, jam sessions, reading groups, tailored coaching, and other opportunities year-round!

We wish you and your new theater educators and directors the best as they step into their own classrooms and rehearsal and performance spaces! Know that as they do so, the Professional Development team at Perpich Center is here to help!

Sincerely,

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